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Funding for Green Gables Haven Shelter included in state budget

LANSING – Included in next year's state budget is \$75,000 for Green Gables Haven Shelter in Barry County, said Sen. Patty Birkholz and Rep. Gary Newell.

"We fought hard to get this funding included in the budget to help out those who rely on the shelter for protection and stability," said Birkholz, R-Saugatuck Township. "Women and children who come to Green Gables Haven are often in a very vulnerable state and need assistance getting back on their feet. This money will make sure the shelter remains open and available to those who need its services."

The funding was included in the Department of Human Services portion of the state budget in both the House and Senate versions. Sen. Birkholz and Rep. Newell hope to maintain funding for Green Gables Haven as budget negotiations move forward.

"Green Gables Haven has served over 350 women and children in the past two years with 50 percent of those served at Green Gables being children, "said Newell, R-Saranac. "It is important that we protect these families while they are going through a rough point in their life."

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